interventions, Information Education Communication for generating awareness about prevention and control of Malaria and capacity building by training of health care workers and NGOs in prevention and control acivities of Malaria.

Enhanced Malaria Control Programme (EMCP) with World Bank support is being implemented in 1045 tribal blocks (PHCs) of 100 districts in 8 States of the country since September, 1997.

The Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) supported Intensified Malaria Control Programme (IMCP) is being implemented in 94 districts in ten States for a period of five years (2005-10). These States are Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, West Bengal, Jharkhand and Orissa.

China for tie-up in Bio-Medical Research

2648. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether China has evinced keen interest for a tie-up with India in the field of bio-medical research;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed co-operation is contemplated only in the area of traditional medicines or likely to extend to the field of modern medicines also;

(d) whether specific proposals for joint research have been received from the Chinese Government if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government are considering similar joint research activity with other countries, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (e) The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has informed that China has evinced keen interest for a tie-up with India in the field of Bio-medical research mainly on Stem Cell and Traditional Medicine. The areas under traditional medicine include documentation of medicinal plants and developing systems for regulating trade in this area. Stem cell research and exchange of scientists for capacity building are other potential areas being explored for

joint activity. The ICMR have suggested cooperation in the field of indigenous medicine with ASEAN countries.

Norms fixed for pesticide level in packed food

†2649. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the norms fixed by Government for carrying out tests of packed food items and soft drinks;

(b) the number of items for which tests were carried out during the last three years;

(c) the details of items which have been fulfilling the said norms alongwith the names of companies manufacturing these items; and

(d) the names of companies found flouting such norms during the last three years and rules under which action was taken by Government against such companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI) (a) The standards/ specifications and norms in respect of pesticide residues for various food articles including packed food items and soft drinks have been prescribed under the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Rules, 1955. The implementation of the PFA Act, 1954 and Rules framed thereunder is entrusted with the Food (Health) Authorities of the States/UTs. who draw random samples of different food articles including packed food items and soft drinks for analysis from all levels *viz.* manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers.

(b) The details of the number of food samples of all commodities including packed food items and soft drinks examined; number of food samples found adulterated during the years 2001 to 2003 (based on the information furnished by the Food (Health) Authorities of States/U.Ts. are at enclosed Statement *(See* below).

(c) and (d) No action is required for the companies manufacturing food items which are fulfilling the said norms, however, action under section 7/16 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 is taken by State Governments in respect of companies manufacturing food articles which are not found to be conforming to the prescribed norms/standards.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.